

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

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1. [REDACTED] Brigadier General Apostolos Xanthopoulos and Colonel George Vardoulakis are involved in a bitter feud over the post of Chief of the Police Directorate in Salonika.
2. Xanthopoulos, who at present is Director of the Aliens' General Center in Salonika, was Chief of the Police Directorate until June 1950. During the general Gendarmerie shake-up, Xanthopoulos was scheduled for a transfer, possibly to Athens. Xanthopoulos, who held the post of Chief of the Police Directorate for several years, was reluctant to leave Salonika, and through appropriate politicking and with the aid of Commander Charles Gordon, BPPM, succeeded in remaining in Salonika by being appointed Director of the Aliens' General Center. Xanthopoulos, however, continued to seek his former post. Before Commander Gordon left on leave to England, he wrote a report to the BPPM in Athens in support of Xanthopoulos, requesting that the latter be reappointed to his old post.
3. In the meantime, Colonel George Vardoulakis had been appointed as temporary Chief of the Police Directorate. At this point, pressure was exerted by political groups which supported either Xanthopoulos or Vardoulakis.
4. Xanthopoulos made several trips to Athens to rally support from politicians and the Gendarmerie generals. He characterized Vardoulakis as incompetent and unsuited for the post.
5. On the other hand, Vardoulakis carried out a reform campaign within the Police Directorate and succeeded in impressing Lieutenant Colonel Keyward of the BPPM mission, who sent a favorable report to BPPM headquarters in Athens on Vardoulakis. In addition, when Vardoulakis was recently in Athens, he was called in by Sir Charles Wickham and congratulated on the manner in which he ran the Police Directorate, and was given to understand that he would retain his post.
6. Vardoulakis has the support of Major General Samouil and Major General Bailakis, who are fellow Cretans; he is a dynamic person who operated as a British agent during the occupation, while still a member of the Gendarmerie. His net was uncovered by the Germans, but Vardoulakis managed to escape to the Middle East. He returned to Greece after the liberation and received his post in the Gendarmerie.

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